

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 4, 1846.

Submitted, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. ATCHISON made the following

REPORT :

[To accompany bill S. No. 109.]

*The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Hugh W. Dobbin, an officer in the late war, praying arrearages of pension, report :*

That the petitioner entered the service of the United States as a lieutenant colonel of militia and volunteers, at the commencement of the late war, in 1812; and that he served three campaigns in 1812, '13, and '14; and the proof is that he discharged his duty to his country in the most exemplary and gallant manner; he took part in most of the skirmishes and battles on the Niagara frontier; he was engaged in the battles at Chippewa, Lundy's Lane, and Fort Erie; he was wounded during the war, and it is in proof that in consequence of his wounds and the hardships he underwent during the said several campaigns, his constitution has been shattered and his health bad from the close of the war until the present day. The petitioner alleges, and the committee does not doubt the truth of the allegation, that he was not informed of the passage of the pension law of the 24th of April, 1816, or he would have then applied for his pension, but that he ascertained that there was such a law for the first time in the year 1828; he then made his application for a pension, and was put upon the pension list the 10th of February, 1831. The petitioner, under the circumstances above stated, thinks himself entitled to the amount of pay he would have received had he applied for a pension immediately after the passage of the pension law of the 24th of April, 1816. The only question presented is, is it just, and right, and therefore politic, to grant arrearages of pension in any case? If this question is decided in the affirmative, then most assuredly the prayer of the petitioner ought to be granted. The committee being of the opinion that arrearages of pension, in many cases, (not to say all) should be allowed, report a bill for the relief of the petitioner.

Ritchie & Heiss, print.

